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SOURCE Slovenski Porocevalec, 1949 - 1950.LIVING STANDARD UP DESPITE COMINFORM EMBARGO

ECONOMIC COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MAKES REPORT -- Slovenski Porocevalec, No 304,
28 Dec 49

Boris Kidric, Chairman of the Economic Council, reported the following on
the Yugoslav economic situation at the eighth regular meeting of the People's
Skupstina:

Previous to the blockade, Yugoslavia imported from the USSR and its sat-
ellites 49.1 percent of its total imports in 1947 and 49.6 percent in 1948.
It exported 51.8 percent of its total exports to these countries and only
43.3 percent in 1948. Yugoslavia imported from the countries much of its re-
quirement for petroleum and petroleum derivatives, all of its coke requirement,
two-thirds of the cotton required, as much as three quarters of the rolled
metal required, and a large quantity of raw materials and semifinished products
of the chemical industry.

For Yugoslavia the Cominform blockade meant the loss of 49 percent of its
export and import trade.

The number of state farms increased from 123 in 1948 to 144 in 1949, and
the number of state local farms from 1,242 to 1,743. The state sector increased
from 481,000 hectares in 1948 to 585,480 hectares in 1949.

The number of cooperatives increased from 1,318 in 1948 to 6,300 in 1949.
The number of farms in cooperatives increased from 60,156 in 1948 to 303,723
in 1949. The total area of cooperatives increased from 24,000 hectares in 1948
to 1,691,000 hectares in 1949. The total area of the socialist sector increased
from 805,000 hectares in 1948 to 2,276,480 hectares in 1949.

In 1948 the Yugoslav government made available to its population 11,900,000
pairs of shoes, while in 1949 it made available 15,529,000 pairs of shoes. The
number of shoes acquired by government agencies is not included in the above
figures.

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In 1948 the Yugoslav government made available to the population 1,607 tons of knitting yarn, while in 1949 it made available 1,647 tons. In 1948, 19,865,000 pairs of stockings were made available to the population, while in 1949 as many as 20,223,000 pairs were available. The plan for the general consumption of coal in 1948 was 1,319,604 tons, but only 884,575 tons were made available. In 1949 the plan called for 1,816,991 tons, and thus far 1,127,862 tons were made available.

In 1948 the amount of cement available for general consumption was 115,999 tons, and in 1949 it was 118,447 tons. In 1948 the plan called for 13,287 tons of soap for general consumption, but only 6,366 tons were available. In 1949 the plan called for 15,159 tons of soap, but thus far only 9,963 tons have been available. In 1948 the plan for the general consumption of wood called for 2,545,000 meters, but only 1,500,000 cubic meters of wood were made available. In 1949 the plan for the general consumption of wood was 3,667,000 cubic meters, but thus far only 2,587,000 cubic meters have been made available.

In 1948, 15,381 tons of petroleum were available, while in 1949 as many as 32,198 tons were available to the population. Both in 1948 and in 1949, 1,500,000 square meters of plate glass were available for general consumption. In 1948, 2,626 tons of hollow glass were available, while in 1949, 4,582 tons of hollow glass were available for general consumption.

SUGAR CONSUMPTION INCREASES -- Slovenski Popovevalac, No 6, 7 Jan 50

In 1947 Yugoslavia produced 41 percent more sugar than in 1939, and in 1948, 52 percent more. In 1949 sugar production was less than in 1939 because of the poor sugar-beet crops. In 1948, 60 percent more area was planted with sugar beets than in 1939, and in 1949, 87 percent more.

At present somewhat more than 10 kilograms of sugar are consumed per capita in one year. The Five-Year Plan calls for an increase of sugar per consumer up to 12 kilograms per year, or twice as much sugar per consumer as before the war. To achieve this Yugoslavia will increase its sugar-beet areas by 230 percent in 1950 as compared with 1939.

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